# Superintendent’s Memo #265-20

  
**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA   
Department of Education**

DATE: October 9, 2020

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: James F. Lane, Ed.D., Superintendent of Public Instruction

## SUBJECT: New COVID-19 Q&A Documents Released by the U. S. Department of Education

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) continues to ensure additional guidance from the U. S. Department of Education (USED) is available to local school divisions. The Department of Special Education and Student Services (SESS) wants to make you aware of two Questions and Answers (Q&A) documents that were released by the USED on September 28, 2020:

1. The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services’ Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) released a Q&A document in response to inquiries concerning implementation of the *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act* (IDEA) Part B provision of services in the current COVID-19 environment:

[Questions and Answers on IDEA Part B Provision of Services](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMDA5MjguMjc4NDk3MTEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dzIuZWQuZ292L3BvbGljeS9zcGVjZWQvZ3VpZC9pZGVhL21lbW9zZGNsdHJzL3FhLXByb3Zpc2lvbi1vZi1zZXJ2aWNlcy1pZGVhLXBhcnQtYi0wOS0yOC0yMDIwLnBkZiJ9.95tMLwfvsGm3L7CfKna2P3cTKBX_9CA_qlZJk6eKRUk/s/47671464/br/86065870810-l)

1. Additionally, the Office for Civil Rights issued a COVID-19-related technical assistance document to assist K-12 schools in meeting their obligations under Federal Civil Rights Laws.

[Questions and Answers for K-12 Public Schools in the Current COVID-19 Environment](https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/qa-covid-20200928.pdf)

For more information about COVID-19 from the USED, please visit:

* [ED COVID-19 Information and Resources](http://www.ed.gov/coronavirus)
* [U.S. Government COVID-19 Information and Resources](http://www.coronavirus.gov/)

The VDOE continues to share information from the USED in an effort to ensure school divisions have the most up to date guidance and information. Continue to visit the [VDOE](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/health_medical/office/covid-19.shtml) website for additional updates and guidance on COVID-19. If you have questions, please contact the VDOE Department of SESS, at [specialed.assistantsuperintendent.memo@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:specialed.assistantsuperintendent.memo@doe.virginia.gov).

JFL/SMH